

*The Congressional Caucus for Freedom of the Press and  
The Center for International Media Assistance at the National Endowment for Democracy*

*invite you to a panel discussion in honor of World Press Freedom Day 2011:*

# DEFENDING PRESS FREEDOM IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

**Tuesday, May 3  
9-10:00 a.m.**

U.S. Capitol Visitors Center  
Room 210-12

*Featuring:*

**Wael Abbas**

Egyptian Journalist and Blogger

**Mariane Pearl**

Journalist and author; widow of Daniel Pearl

**Irina Bokova**

Director General, UNESCO

**Representative Adam Schiff**

U.S. House of Representatives

*Joined by:*

**Esther Brimmer**

Assistant Secretary of State,  
International Organization Affairs

**Michael Posner**

Assistant Secretary of State,  
Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

*Moderated by:*

**David Killion**

U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO

*Hosted by:*

**Carl Gershman**

President, National Endowment for Democracy

*Please RSVP to [lauram@ned.org](mailto:lauram@ned.org).*

*\*\*This event is open to the press.\*\**

This event is being organized in coordination with the World Press Freedom Day conference taking place in Washington, DC, May 1-3, 2011 at the Newseum and National Press Club. This is the first time since World Press Freedom Day was established nearly 20 years ago that the United States will host the celebration. The event will mark the first anniversary of the Daniel Pearl Press Freedom Act, which calls for a focus on freedom of the press issues in the State Department's annual human rights reports on countries. The discussion will focus on the important role independent media play in democratic and economic development worldwide, with an emphasis on the innovative media platforms that are democratizing how people voice their opinions and access information – and how these must be protected.

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**The Congressional Caucus for Freedom of the Press** was organized in May 2006. The bipartisan, bicameral caucus is co-chaired by Representatives Adam Schiff (D-CA) and Michael Pence (R-IN), and Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN). It aims to advance press freedom by creating a forum to combat and condemn media censorship and the persecution of journalists worldwide.

**The Center for International Media Assistance**, an initiative of the National Endowment for Democracy, brings together a broad range of media experts with the goal of strengthening the support for and improving the effectiveness of media assistance programs by providing information, building networks, and conducting research on the indispensable role independent media play in creating sustainable democracies around the world.